



HR1078

LRB095 20361 KXB 47729 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of former  
4 State Representative Giddy Erwin Dyer of Davidson, North  
5 Carolina, formerly of Hinsdale, who passed away on February 28,  
6 2008; and

7           WHEREAS, Goudyloch Saffold Erwin was born May 28, 1919, in  
8 Atlanta, Georgia, and spent her childhood in Davidson, North  
9 Carolina; she was the daughter of the late Mary Louisa Browne  
10 Erwin and former Davidson College English professor Edward  
11 Jones Erwin; her brothers, George Pfifer Erwin and Edward Jones  
12 Erwin, were both killed during World War II and her family  
13 constructed a memorial building in their honor, Erwin Lodge,  
14 which remains part of the campus of Davidson College; and

15           WHEREAS, After completing a year at then all-male Davidson  
16 College, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree at Agnes Scott  
17 College in Atlanta in 1938; she spent two years as an assistant  
18 children's librarian at the New York City Public Library; while  
19 living in Brooklyn, New York, she met and married Robert  
20 Campbell Dyer, who preceded her in death in 2004 after 63 years  
21 of marriage; and

22           WHEREAS, Following World War II, she and her husband moved

1 to the Chicago area where she became active in local community  
2 groups including Girl Scouts, the parent-teacher associations  
3 at her children's schools, the American Association of  
4 University Women, and the League of Women Voters; she also  
5 wrote reviews of children's books for The Chicago Tribune;  
6 through her involvement in the League of Women Voters, as well  
7 as the National Council of Republican Workshops, she entered  
8 politics in 1960 as the first woman elected to the DuPage  
9 County Board of Commissioners; she held the office until 1968,  
10 when she was elected to the first of six terms in the Illinois  
11 House of Representatives; and

12 WHEREAS, As a State Representative, Giddy Dyer focused on  
13 health, education, conservation, and issues affecting women  
14 and children; she was chief Republican House sponsor of the  
15 Equal Rights Amendment, and successfully pushed it through the  
16 Illinois House in 1975; her many honors for her public service  
17 included being named 1973 Woman of the Year by Illinois  
18 Business and Professional Women, and in 1982, receiving the  
19 Distinguished Alumna Award from both of her alma maters; and

20 WHEREAS, She served on many boards, including Planned  
21 Parenthood of the Chicago Area and the Elmhurst College Board  
22 of Trustees; she also served on the board to develop the  
23 Davidson retirement community that became The Pines; through  
24 most of her retirement, she maintained residences in both

1 Davidson, North Carolina, and in Hinsdale, and was a talented  
2 and devoted member of bridge clubs in both communities; and

3 WHEREAS, Giddy Erwin Dyer is survived by her son, Colin  
4 Robert Campbell Dyer and wife, Janet; her daughter, Erwin  
5 "Wynn" Avery Graham and husband, Michael; former  
6 daughter-in-law, Marsha Dyer Kelly and husband, Chuck; her  
7 granddaughter, Leigh Avery Dyer; her grandsons, Campbell  
8 Robert Dyer and wife, Jen, Kelly Irl Dyer and wife, Anna, Galen  
9 Avery Graham and wife, Amanda, William Erwin Reid Graham,  
10 Robert "Ted" Edward Graham, and Kevin Milas Dyer; her  
11 great-grandsons, Luke Campbell Robert Dyer and Finn Winston  
12 Dyer; and her great-granddaughters, Ivy Greer Dyer and Brooke  
13 Elizabeth Dyer; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
15 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
16 mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of former  
17 State Representative Giddy Erwin Dyer; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Giddy Erwin Dyer as a symbol of our  
20 sincere sympathy.